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Will you take an active role in 1988?

by John F. Berner, Editor in chief

Pleas for more active participation in our society have obviously been too subtle. Because so few have come forth and taken an active part. Have you ever thought to yourself "What can I do to further this hobby of artifact collecting through the efforts of the G.I.R.S.?" Perhaps you don't know that your help would be welcomed whole heartedly. As of this writing, there are less than a dozen persons who are really involved in the present and future of our society. And that's too few!

Let me share with you where we are. Since 1985 and our overall reorganization, we have managed to meet our obligations. Each year, including this one; we have published Four journals. For the most part, each journal has been published and mailed on a timely basis (however some issues have been slow to be completed). The reason is because we try to keep the quality of information at a reasonably high level, and if sufficient interesting and a variety of material is not received; the journal is held until it can be filled.

While our publishing costs have risen in the past three years by more than 20%, we have not raised our membership dues, and we don't plan to do so. We are financially stable. This means that each year we spend only what we take in during that calendar year. In fact, we have held only one show this year, because our budget will only permit the cost of one show.

What can you do to help the G.I.R.S.?

We need more members. Each and every member can ask five friends to join the G.I.R.S. Or if you have a close friend, you can give a membership as a Holiday gift. This is the very least you can do to help the G.I.R.S. But there's more to be done.

We would like to expand our Editorial coverage.

In addition to our Regional Associate Editors, we would like to have State Editors from all forty

FRONT COVER: Human effigy pipe of fine grained tan sandstone. Found by a William Levy eleven feet below the surface in a low mound in Highland County, Ohio in 1871. Collected by William Seever of St. Louis in 1915, later it journeyed to the Charles Eicher collection of Miamisburg in the 50's, then to H.C. Wachtel of Dayton, Ohio, in the 60's, John Berner, Roswell, Georgia in the 70's and on to the present owner. This large Mississippian pipe measures 7 1/4" x 7 1/4" and has affectionately been called the "Sphinx" since the early 1900's.
Collection of D.R. Gehlbach, Columbus, Ohio

eight. There are collectors and members in every state, why not Editors who will help us keep in contact with what's happening in their particular area?

Positions are open each year for Officers and Directors.

Being a Director of the G.I.R.S. is not a really difficult job. It involves you in the policy and planning of the society, it gives you a vote in the direction and decisions. Of course, you are responsible for attending several private business meetings each year, and voicing your opinion on what's to be done. The officer jobs are not really all that difficult either. The President acts as chairman for all business meetings and recommends policy, makes certain appointments. The Vice President is in charge of the Educational displays and Society Meetings. The Secretary keeps track of the written affairs of the society and records the minutes of the meeting. The Treasurer deposits the dues, pays the bills and advises us of our financial condition. We welcome candidates for all of these positions. If you are interested please let us know.

Many other responsibilities need help right now.

We need a national Membership chairperson to organize a Membership drive and establish regional co-chairpersons. We need Chairpersons to recommend and establish Artifact shows. And we have an opening for the 1988 Chairperson to head F.A.C.T.™ program. This is the program which organizes and manages our "Authenticity Program". There's no question that there is plenty to do. We really need you to participate at any level you feel comfortable.

Unfortunately, there's no pay for hard work.

If you love this hobby of artifact collecting and preservation like I do, you wouldn't think of taking pay for the job. And it wouldn't do any good if you did because all jobs in the G.I.R.S. are gratis. We have no paid officers, directors, members, etc. and never will. All of us who work for the society donate our time. There isn't any pay and we don't expect any in terms of money, but in terms of personal satisfaction, it's terrific!

If you haven't paid your 1988 dues, do it now!

This entire editorial has been about how you can help the G.I.R.S. One thing is for sure, if you haven't sent your 1988 dues in yet, you can help immensely by doing that right now. Without your dues, we can't do anything, least of all; none of the future plans we've asked you to participate in this coming year.

Would you like to be Editor of "Prehistoric Artifacts"

Yes, the job of Editor in chief of "Prehistoric Artifacts" is available to the proper candidate in 1989. Now, you can't have my job in 1988, but maybe you're asking "Why is the position available in 1989?" Simply, after I complete sixteen issues over a four year period, I can use a break. Also, you're going to get pretty tried of reading my stuff. Sometimes, I do myself. Now I want you to know that I am very dedicated to doing the very best job I know how in 1988 with a great deal of enthusiasm, but I think that someone else needs to do it later on. As an incentive, I am willing to offer co-editorship of our journal for the last half of 1988 so that our new editor will get going on a flying start. And I promise to contribute at least four major articles in 1989. When Gray LaDassor took over in 1973 from me as Editor of the "Redskin" we worked it out this way and everything went smoothly. Let me hear from you on this matter.

The G.I.R.S. is a natural for a National Society

This is something that has been in my mind since 1972. Jack Roberts, one of our illustrious and finest Presidents of the G.I.R.S. and myself thought that this was a grand idea. And with our efforts we did double our membership within less than 12 months. But perhaps the time was not right as the idea of being truly a national society was never followed up.

I think now the time is right. Let me share my reasons. There are a great number of state Archaeological Societies in existence. Some of them are very strong, Some are very weak. Ohio is perhaps the strongest of all and publish their own journal. Other very strong state societies are Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana. But these societies are part of the Central States group. Collectively, the Central States publishes an outstanding journal under the present direction of Alan Banks. But the primary direction of this splendid organization is archaeological in nature. And least should I forget, kudos to the Volunteer Society of Tennessee who have in the past twelve months gained over 30% in new membership. If they can do it, why can't we?

Did you realize that the G.I.R.S. is not an

archaeological society, and has no state boundries? We are not in competition with any of the above named societies, in fact we suport the C.S.A.S. and 90% of our members belong to one or more of their member societies. Our purpose is really quite different from these groups. We are strictly collector and education oriented. The G.I.R.S. is designed to provide a forum for artifact collectors and preservationists to assemble and diseminate information on the state of the hobby and situations affecting the collector. As part of our program, we provide education and knowledge on fraudulent reproduction, distribution and manufacture. At the same time we also provide a means to all members, non-members and institutions to get an opinion on the status of artifacts, be they "questionable" or "authentic without question" through our "Authenticity Program".

My suggestion for National Expansion of the G.I.R.S.

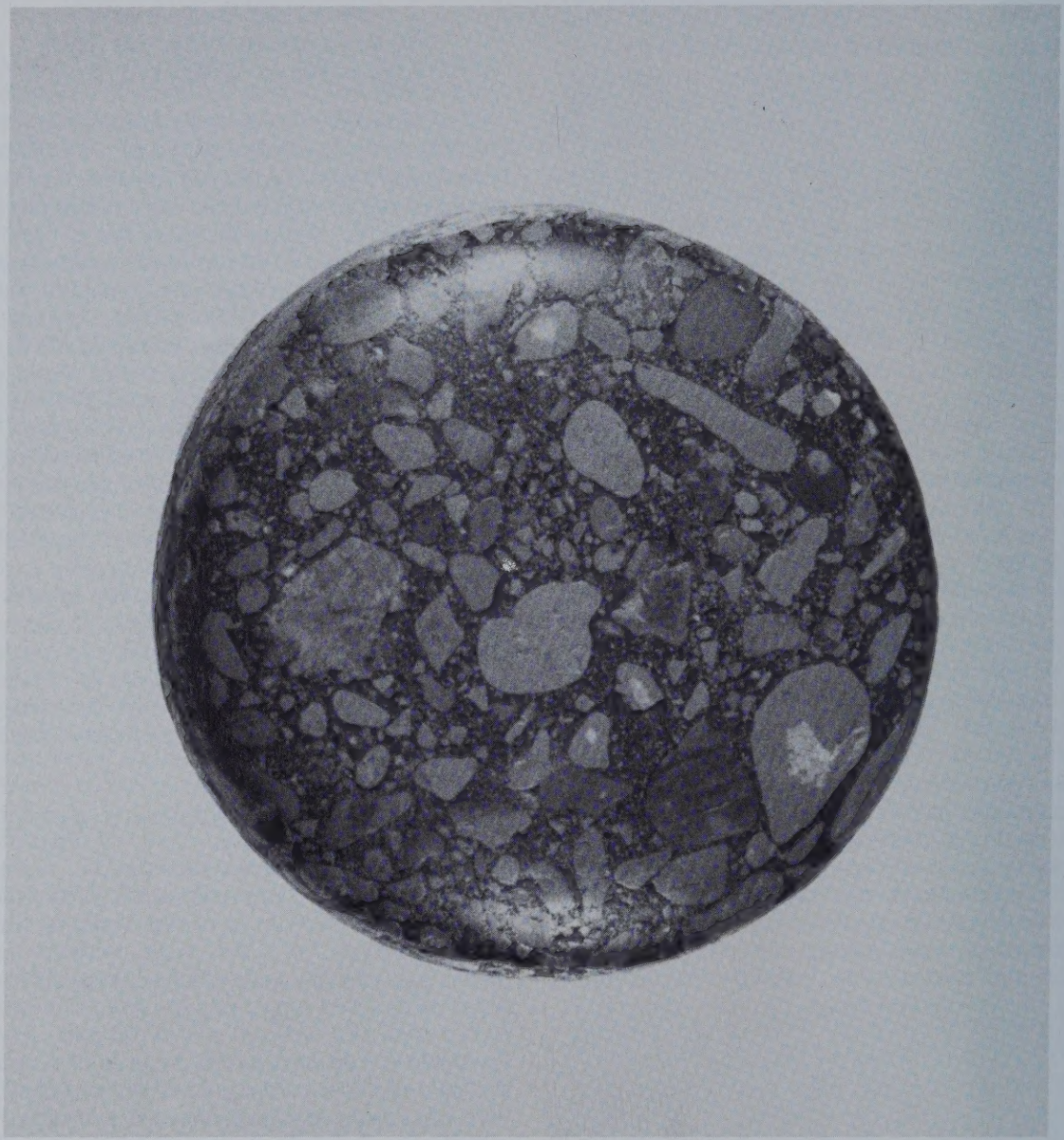
Why can't we establish Regional Chapters of the G.I.R.S. throughout the United States? This would provide an opportunity for our members who are some distance removed from the heartland of relic collecting, the central mid-western area and the upper mid-south to participate in our programs. These chapters could have their own elected officers, who in turn could provide a chosen representative to attend our annual business meetings and share in the future of the society. Each regional chapter would receive official status and have the opportunity to organize its own regional annual artifact show and meeting. And this would provide the much needed input for our journal in terms of articles, photographs and information. Annual competitions could be established where the chapters could submit their best of the year in competition with all other chapters for National Society recognition. For example, there are some fantastic examples of prehistoric art found in the Southwestern states, and collectors in this area are just as excited about them as are the Birdstone collectors of the upper Ohio valley. And who knows more about regional artifacts than the collectors in their own area. Now I am not going to pursue this idea further here at this time, but I am going to submit this recommendation to our Board of Directors at our forthcoming Annual Business Meeting for their consideration.

We are approaching our 25th Anniversary of the G.I.R.S.

In celebration of our 25th Anniversary, the G.I.R.S. is considering publishing a hardbound book featuring a selection of the very best artifacts gracing private collections throughout the United States. The publication would first become available to all Members at a substantial discount. Members would have the opportunity to receive a limited edition deluxe copy in advance of the general offering, not available to the general public. Guest editors would be on the basis of invitation only, with most knowledgeable contributors being asked to participate. The publication would be issued in numbered copies and limited production. A highly regarded commercial designer has been engaged to create the format, specialized artifact sections, and cover design. The highest quality photography and reproduction methods will be utilized to provide near original photographic quality of the artifacts published therein. As could be expected, only artifacts which are "authentic without question" will be featured. More information will be shared with you through future issues of this journal.

Thank you, Dr. J. Neal Brown

My good friend and associate, Dr. J. Neal Brown has passed the job of G.I.R.S. Treasurer on to James Felke of Rochester, Indiana, effective November 1st, 1987. Neal, without your dedication and the generosity of your personal time, we couldn't have done the job. From interfacing with the IRS on annual returns, to the Postmaster, and sacking up the past 12 journals and taking them to the post office, and dealing with the Library of Congress, computerizing the mailing list of members, depositing the dues and paying the bills, what a tremendous task you have borne. Neal, I thank you. The G.I.R.S. thanks you.



Highly polished and well made conglomerate Biscuit type Discoidal measuring 3¾" in diameter, 1¼" in thickness. Red, yellow and brown colorations and found in the early 60's Walker County, Alabama.

Collection of Ray Kilgore, Cusseta, Alabama

FIG: 1

This premier flint creation (Dixon) is an apogean masterpiece of ravishing beauty and lithic execution with bands and swirls of tan, yellow, gold and red. Its aesthetic refinement and ostentation, a cynosure to admiring eyes, transcends the mere prosaic. Measuring 6 1/4" x 3 1/4" x 1/4" thickness, this artifact was found near Peoria, Illinois on the bank of the Illinois River. Formerly in Don Edwards collection.

Collection of Ollie Skrivanie, Two Rivers, Wisconsin

FIG: 2
A magnificent example of the Poverty Point Gorget/Boatstone. Made of highly polished dark brown limonite, the upper surface is graced with triple convoluting engraved lines reminiscent of serpentine designs. While the under surface appears to have suffered cultivation damage, it in fact is the result of ancient fracturing. The deep central cavity remains a mystery to collectors and archaeologists alike. Found Prentiss County, Mississippi near Frankstown in the early 40's.

Galena Versus Barite

by C. S. Wagers

Over the years I have heard the terms Barite and Galena used virtually interchangeable among collectors. The term refers to a material used occasionally in the manufacture of some relic types. Relics made of this material are not common.

The two materials are, in fact, quite different. Both are minerals and therefore both could be a raw material for prehistoric man. Barite is "barium sulfate" (BaSO4). Galena is lead sulfide (PbS). Galena is the principal ore of lead.

Barium and lead are substantially different metals. Barium is actually considered a transitional metal and is roughly half as dense as lead.

I suspect that the majority of relics which collectors refer to as Barite or Galena are, in fact, made of Galena. I am certain that I have seen, and own, several relics made of Galena. I may well have never seen a true Barite artifact.

The material collectors usually refer to when using these terms are very dense and heavy and have a white, gray, or cream colored surface formed by oxidation of the material. On fresh breaks the surface is very silvery and shiny, much like fresh poured lead. This surface does not oxidize or begin to gray nearly as quickly as fresh lead.

I suspect that when these items were worn and utilized by prehistoric man they were of this very silvery, shiny surface. They were probably very pretty and highly valued. The white, gray surface has come with age and patination.

Although I am not aware of fakers working with this material to any great degree, there is one point I would encourage collectors to watch out for. I suspect that it would not be difficult for a faker to actually make a relic from lead and then add the patina through some form of an acid treatment. Lead is very soft and easily cut, filed, drilled, etc. It also readily takes on a gray or white oxidation or coating which would obliterate any signs of manufacture. The weight of the object would also closely approximate that of Galena. There, however, would be scientific methods to evaluate this, like exact measurements of density, chemical analysis of a fragment of patina, etc.

I have seen one or two artifacts that I am suspicious of. As in any case of dealing with a relic or material, study some you have confidence in and learn what they should look like.

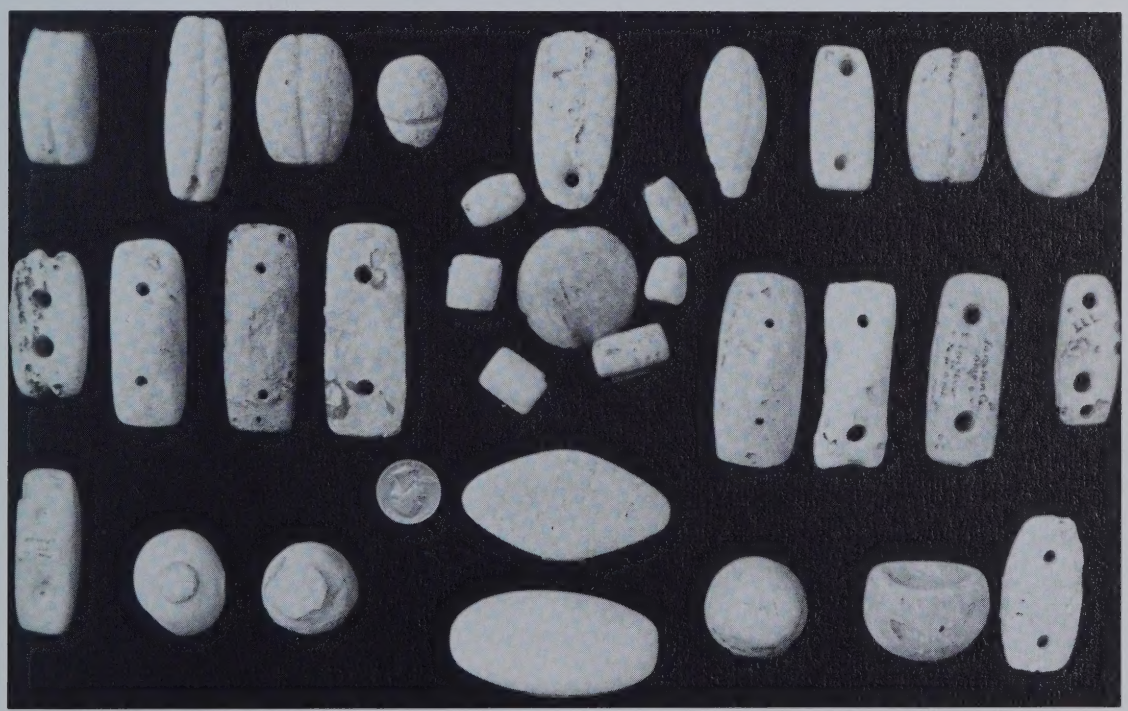


FIG: 3
An interesting selection of Galena artifacts, mostly found in the Central Kentucky area.
Collection of Tom Davis, Stanton, Kentucky

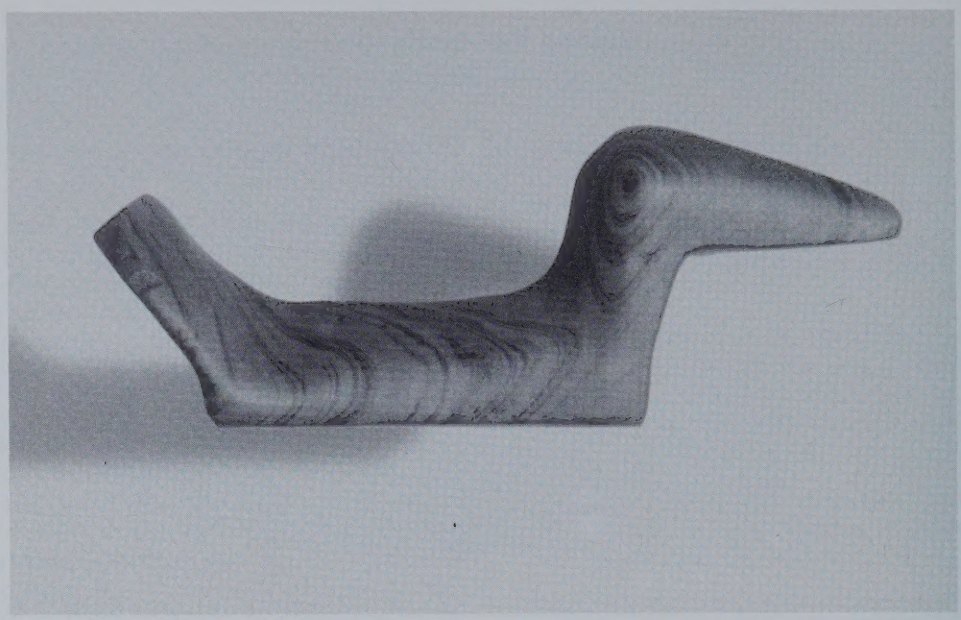


FIG: 4
A superb quality Birdstone made of gray and black banded slate found in Michigan. Measures 4 7/8" x 2" x 3/4" in thickness. "Certificate of Authenticity #107".
Collection of Jack Kistler, Logansport, Indiana

FIG: 5
This beautiful knobbed Crescent is made of heavily banded slate with alternating bands of green/gray and black. The terminating knobs are highly developed. Measuring 5 5/8" in length, 7/8" thick this fine artifact was found in Carroll County, Indiana. "Certificate of Authenticity, #106.
Collection of Jack Kistler, Logansport, Indiana

Hohokam Burial Customs

by A.J. Wesolowski

The Arizona Hohokam Indians, who lived in the central Arizona deserts from approximately 1 AD until 1500 AD, cremated their dead. Following the cremation ceremony, the remainder of the bones were gathered from the ashes of the crematorium and often reburied inside of a fine Olla pottery vessel. Often times a pottery bowl was utilized as a cover for the burial Olla. The burials are generally from two to three feet in depth of the present earth surface.

The place of the burials was varied. Some were deposited in trash dumps or kitchen middens, while others were buried in small cemetaries nearby the main villages.

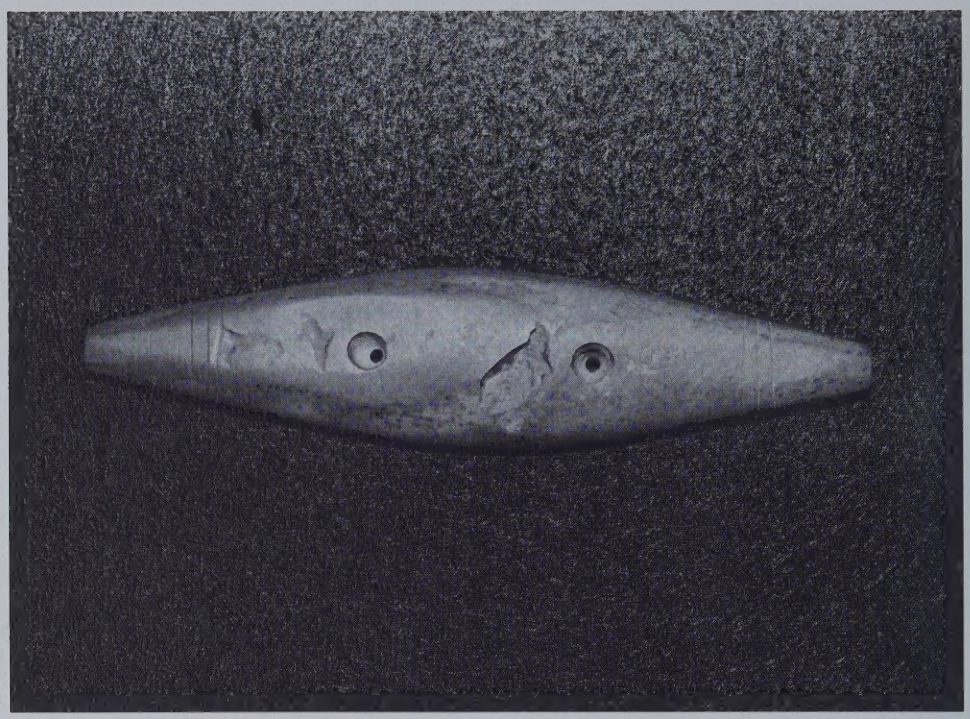
Occasionally grave offerings such as weapons, beads, other pottery vessels were associated with the burials. Ancient Indians of later times such as the Maricopas copied this custom of burial.

The accompanying photo illustrates a beautifully shaped plain surface Olla 8" in height with a 5" diameter bowl covering. The Olla features flame patterns on the exterior and has the distinctive Mica temper. The Mica is obtained from a schistose rock. The smooth surface of the Olla has the appearance of Onion skin. In fact, it is this surface finish which lends the name to this type of pottery. It must be noted that due to the fact that the village sites are located on soft desert sand, many Ollas have been discovered intact.

FIG: 6

Fine Onion Skin Hohokam Olla with bowl covering, discovered in Central Arizona.

Collection of A.J. Wesolowski, Scottsdale, Arizona



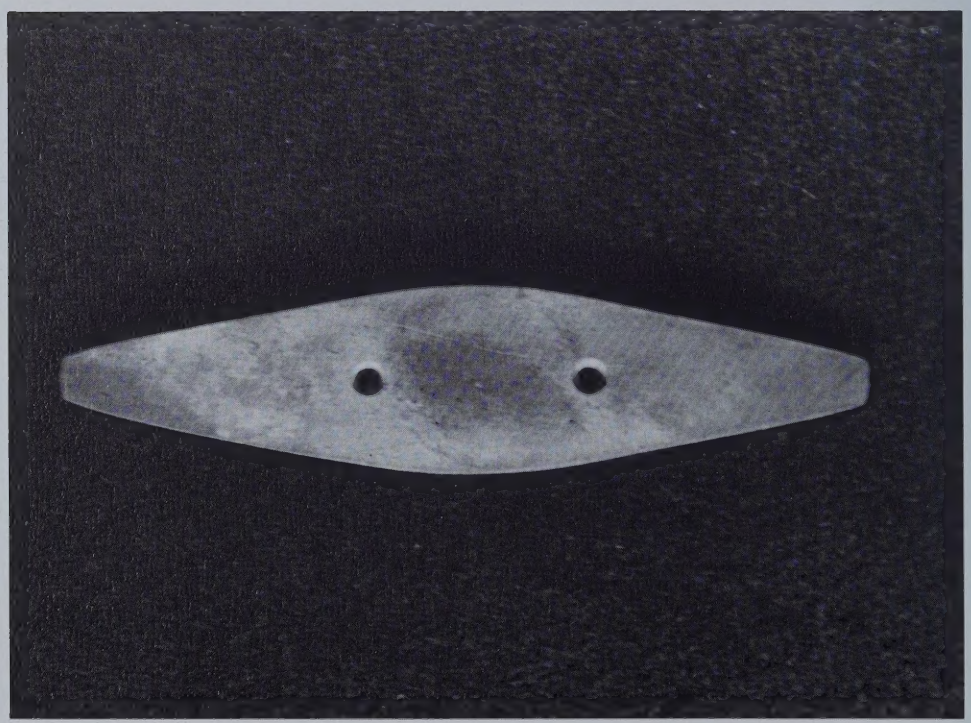


FIG: 7
Extremely large Southern type Adena expanded center gorget fashioned from a reddish-brown indurated claystone. Featuring three engraved lines perpendicular to the length on each end, this fine artifact measures 6 7/8" x 1 1/2". Found Itawamba County, Mississippi.

FIG: 8

The Dovetail or St. Charles point has long been a favorite among collectors. This is due in part to its pleasing appearance, quality of workmanship and its widespread range throughout the central United States. The Dovetail is an Archaic point dating from 7500 B.C. to 6000 B.C. making it contemporary to Hardin and Scottsbluff points. There are many variations in Dovetails even within a limited range. Most evident are differences in the treatment of the base.

The illustrated Dovetail is a good example of the "small base" variation which has heavy basal grinding as do most other Dovetails. The material is the beautiful highly colored Flint Ridge Flint. The colors range from white, yellow, purple to gray with yellow predominating. The source of this material is central Ohio in Licking County. The length of this point is exactly five inches. Although the provenience of this dovetail has been lost, it is most likely Ohio due to the fact that it is made from Flint Ridge flint and Dovetails made from this colorful material are scarce outside the state of Ohio.

SELECTED PREFORMS, POINTS AND KNIVES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS, Vol. 1, Gregory Perino, 1985.

Collection of Bill & Margie Koup, Churubusco, Indiana

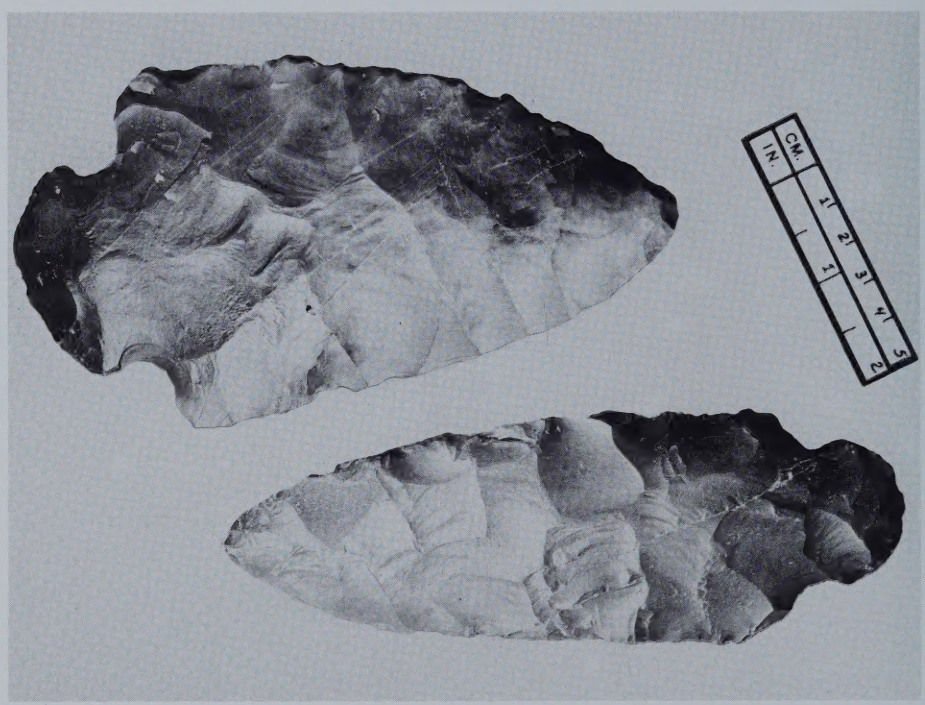


FIG: 9 & 10

Four points from a cache of 34 found erroding from the shore of the Texarkana Lake several years ago. The points are made of a gray/black novaculite. The style is unusual and only one other similar point has been found plowed from a field on the bluff of the Red River, on the Oklahoma side 50 miles west of the site of this cache.

Courtesy of Greg Perino, Archaeological Consultant

FIG: 11

This Illinois type corner notch projectile was found by Charles Redmond in 1950 in Brown County (near Mt. Sterling) Illinois. Measuring 6 1/16" in length, 2 1/8" in width this classic is gray, blue and white with eye catching ribbons of gold transversing the blade. It was previously cabineted by Bob Dunn and Bob Jenkins.

Collection of Ollie Skrivanie, Two Rivers, Wisconsin

FIG: 12
Three unusually shaped bannerstones that exhibit a prominent ridge in the middle of the artifact. These rare artifacts show the evolution of the type. (left) Found in Itawamba County, Mississippi; made of black hematite. (Center) Found in Desoto County, Mississippi; made of highly polished dark brown hematite. (right) Found in Pontotoc County, Mississippi. Made of reddish-brown claystone and measures 3 3/4" in length.

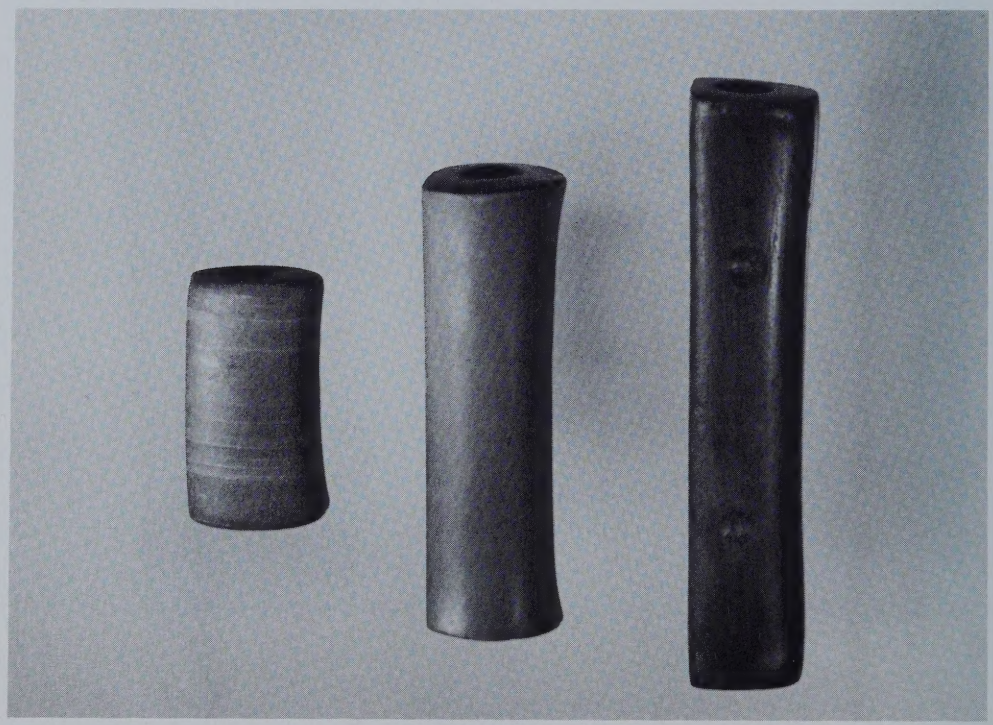


FIG:13
Three rare tubular type bannerstones with flaring ends. Note indentations on one particular specimen. (left) found in Monroe County, Mississippi; made of siliceous claystone. (center) found in Hardin County, Tennessee; made of mint green shale. (right) found in Yalobusha County, Mississippi. Made of mint green shale and measures 6 1/4" in length.

Bannerstones: Weights or Handles?

by J. Neal Brown

During the early nineteenth century, farming became a way of life for many Americans. Cultivation, for the first time, of vast amounts of recently cleared land yielded evidence of prior occupation by the Aboriginals. This evidence consisted of mostly stone arrowheads but occasionally single centered perforated stones that exhibited unusual workmanship and symmetry were found. These unusual perforated stones provoked both early collectors and archaeologists to question their use by the aboriginals.

Since no one really knew their function(s) they were grouped with other stone items of unknown function(s) and referred to as problematicals.

The term bannerstone was supposedly first used by C.C. Abbott to describe these unusual stones. The word bannerstone fit their proposed function, as many believed that they were mounted on a staff and served as a status symbol.

Clarence B. Moore's finding of bannerstones in archaic burials at Indian Knoll, Kentucky led him to suggest a utilitarian role for bannerstones. He proposed that they served as spacers during the making of nets. This hypothesis was never popular.

The most widely accepted hypothesis of bannerstone function came as a result of Dr. Webb's excavations in Kentucky and Alabama during the late thirties and early forties. Burials containing bannerstones, in association with atlatl handles and hooks made of deer antler, led to his widely accepted hypothesis of bannerstones serving as weights on atlatls.

Increasing the atlatls effectiveness as a spear-thrower, by placing a weight on the wooden shaft near the distal end, is the main feature of the atlatl weight theory. However, published results from experiments designed to test the atlatl weight theory, are conflicting. A review of the literature by Kwas1 led her to conclude that "It is unfortunate that researchers took so easily to the hypothesis that bannerstones functioned as atlatl weights." Even today, many professional archaeologists and collectors refer to all bannerstones as atlatl weights. The possibility of all bannerstone types having a singular function is unlikely.

For example, the six bannerstones pictured on page 14 could have functioned as atlatl handles rather than atlatl weights! Visual examination of the bannerstones pictured reveal a perforation that would permit insertion of a round wooden shaft completely through their long axis. Perforations of greater than six inches are often observed in both types of bannerstones illustrated. These long perforations provided additional contact surface for binding the wooden shaft.

A strong bond between the shaft and handle would be essential because pressure exerted during each throw would tend to dislodge the shaft from the handle. How was this strong bond created? An analogy using a familiar technique is helpful. Tightening the handle in a wood chopping axe can often be accomplished by soaking the axe head overnight in water. The absorption of water, by dehydrated cells within the axe handle, causes the cells to swell resulting in an expansion of the wood. This expanded wood within the perforation of the metal axe head serves to tighten the axe handle. Surely, the aboriginals knew of this technique and made use of it.

An alternate method of binding the handle and/or bone atlatl hook to the wooden shaft could have employed pine pitch as an adhesive.

The three bannerstones pictured at the top of page 14 are very rare. This type is found within a small geographical area, primarily centered within the northern part of the state of Mississippi. These bannerstones were usually made from a low grade hematite material and most examples exhibit exfoliation of the outer surface. Their geometric profile reveals a prominent ridge in the middle of the stone while the back is usually a flat plane. The example from Pontotoc County, Mississippi is highly developed. Knoblock did not picture this rare type in the "Bannerstone" book.

Another unique and rare type of bannerstone is illustrated by the bottom three examples pictured on page 14. Their center of distribution appears to be the northern part of the state of Mississippi. However, examples have been found as far away as Missouri and southern Illinois. They were usually crafted from either a mint green shale or reddish claystone material. Their geometric profile is similar to the bar amulet which is found much further north.

Other types of bannerstones that could have functioned as atlatl handles include the D-humped, concave humped, single-face bottle, fluted ball and tubular forms.

Obviously the wing type bannerstones could not have functioned in a similar manner.

In conclusion, the hypothesis that certain types of bannerstones functioned as atlatl handles rather than atlatl weights is intriguing.

References:

1. Kwas, Mary L. "Bannerstones: A Historical Overview", Journal of Alabama Archaeology, Vol. 28, No. 2, 1982.

FIG: 14
Highly developed Hopewell Platform effigy "self" pipe made of Mahogony colored Ohio pipestone (an indurate clay). The effigy features a typical stance of the Raccoon, an animal familiar to the Ohio valley dwellers. Note that the stem is broken at the perforation and has been polished down. Recovered by Squier and Davis in the mid 1800's.
Courtesy of the British Museum and Dr. Sherman Glass

FIG: 15
Another Squier and Davis discovery, this exquisite sculpture of the famous Hopewellians features a species of Hawk dining on the catch of the day. In this instance, the pedestal forming the base for the legs of the bird of prey serves as the bowl of the smoking instrument.
Courtesy of the British Museum and Dr. Sherman Glass

FIG: 16

This raptorial bird features a unique pose, as if surveying the surrounding area waiting for the opportunity to attack its prey. Modeled in fine grained Ohio pipestone, this work of art was discovered by Squier and Davis in a "killed" status. The variations of color hues indicates the fragments survived a cremation.

Courtesy of the British Museum and Dr. Sherman Glass

FIG: 17

Unique in its statuesque pose, this artistic sculpture in stone features a majestic hawk perched on the side of the curved base stem, characteristic of the Hopewellian culture of the Ohio valley. Unusual in recovery of such artifacts is an inset eye, still intact; which lends a very lifelike appearance to the work. Recovered in the mid 1800's by Squier and Davis.

Courtesy of the British Museum and Dr. Sherman Glass

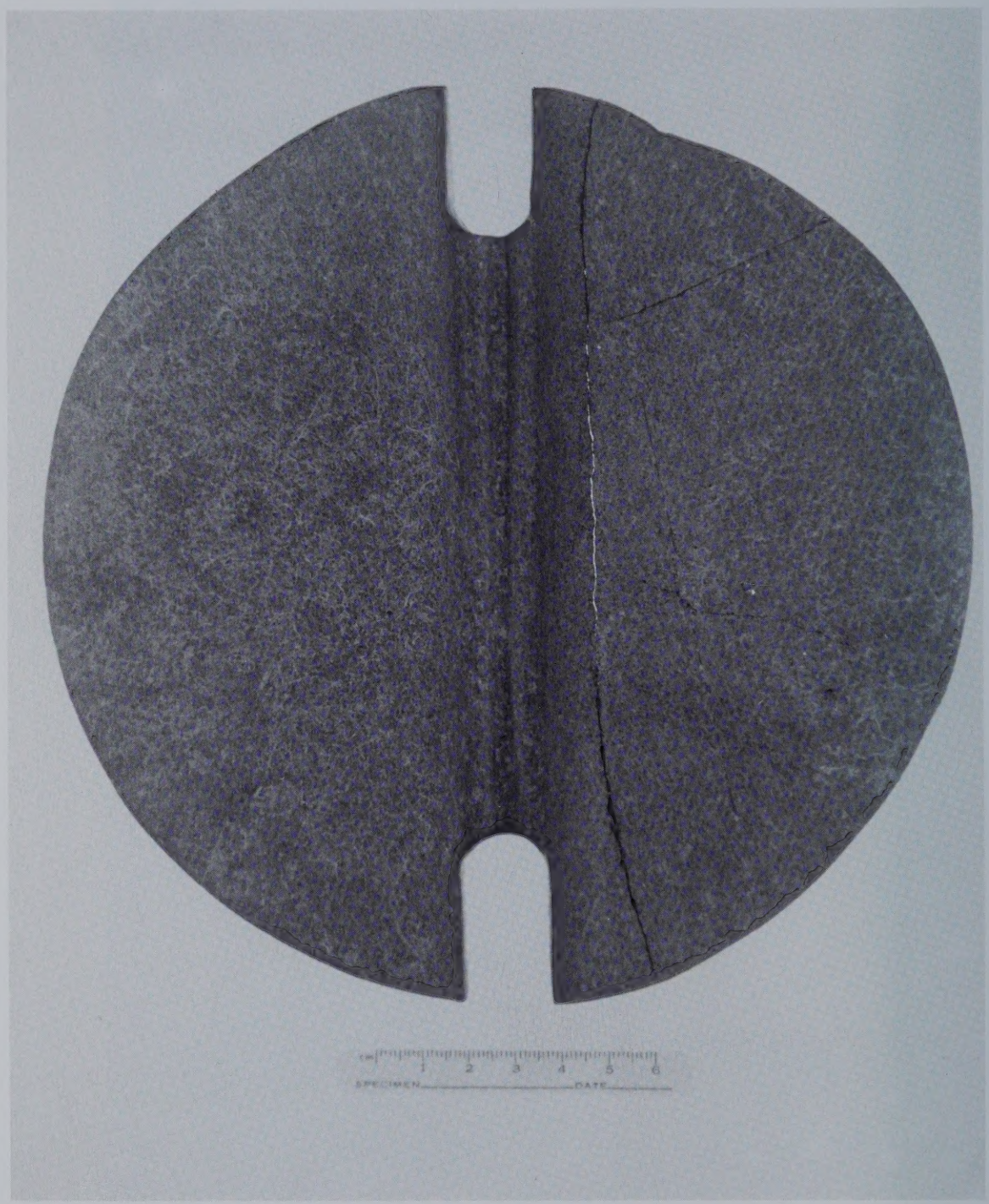


FIG: 18
Found on November 6, 1986 by Joe Boyd and Sam Long. It measures 7 1/2" x 7 3/4" in diameter. The wings are less than 1/4" in thickness and in many areas less than 1/16".
Collection of Joseph Boyd, M.D.

A Savannah River Double-Notched Ovate Bannerstone

by Joseph Boyd, M.D.

Bannerstones are infrequently encountered in the Savannah River Valley, but those found usually show excellent workmanship. Double-Notched Ovate Bannerstones were commonly used by the Stallings Island Indians, who occupied many shell mounds along the Savannah River Valley. The pictured bannerstone was found in a shell mound on the Savannah River above Augusta, Georgia. This mound shows evidence of an archaic culture and a later period of habitation. The bannerstone was broken in four places and was located in the archaic layer. The broken wing was directly over the body of the bannerstone. It appeared that the weight of the refuse had fractured the wing. No other relics were associated with the bannerstone. This is a classic example of a Double-Notched Ovate Bannerstone.

References:

Claflin, William H.
1931. The Stallings Island Mound Columbia County, Georgia. Peabody Museum of American Archeology and Ethnology, Harvard University. 14:1

Fundaburk, Emma Lila and Mary Douglas Foreman
1957. Sun Circles And Human Hands. Emma Fundaburk. Luverne, Alabama.

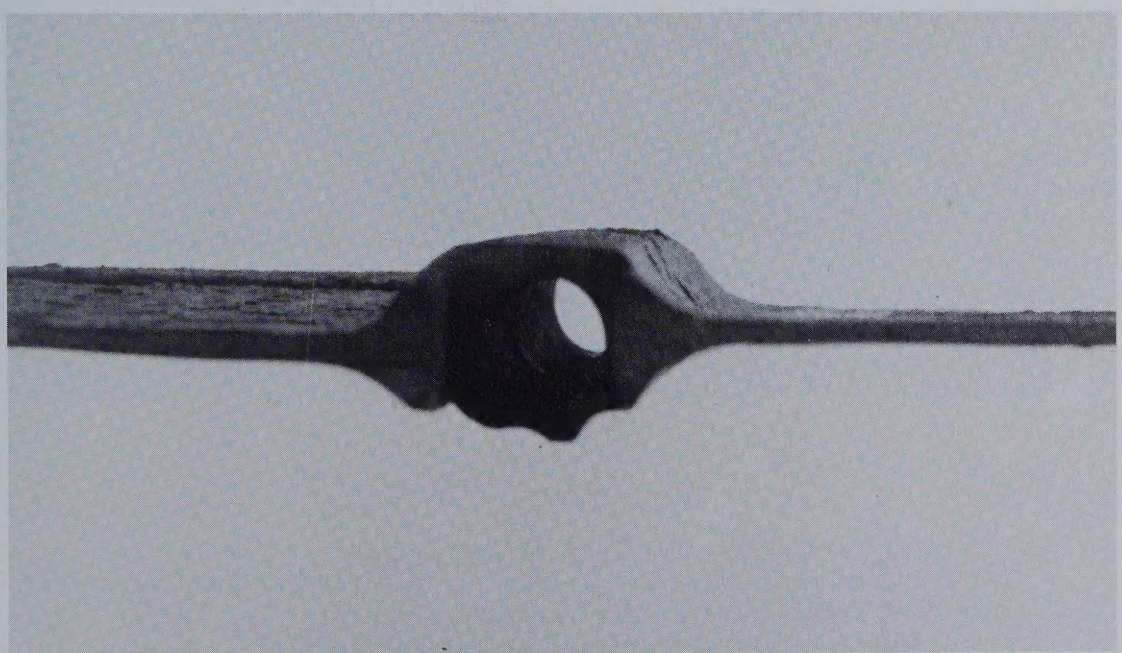


FIG: 19
(A) Mastodon tooth in a portion of jaw bone. (B) Mammoth tooth. Recovered from Black Water Rivers of North Central Florida.
Collection of C.S. Wagers, Fairfield, Ohio

Pleistocene Elephant Teeth

by C.S. Wagers

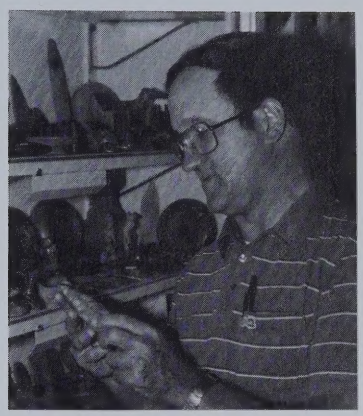
While not actually a prehistoric artifact in the strict definition, an item that frequently turns up in relic collections is the Pleistocene elephant tooth. A number of these have shown up at recent auctions and shows and are selling for substantial amounts. Believe it or not, I know of at least one fraudulent tooth that has shown up on a well known dealer/collector's table. I'll discuss that further at the end of this article.

By the term Pleistocene elephant, we are basically speaking of both the mastodon and mammoth. The teeth of these two animals are distinctly different. The mastodon tooth, which seems to draw the most interest of the two among collectors, looks more like what one would expect a tooth to look like. The mammoth tooth, on the other hand, is made up of a series of plates stacked together like a deck of cards. The plates lay perpendicular to the length of the jaw.

Mastodon teeth belong to basically one species. A dwarf subspecie is found on occassion in South America but is extremely rare in North America. There are, however, several species of mammoth. Basically these species can be determined by studying the number of plates and thickness of the plates of the teeth.

Variations in size are also encountered ranging from the small "milk tooth" of a baby animal to some enormous examples from large adults. Extremes on either end are rare. Also quite rare are teeth still in part of the animal's jaw.

Elephant teeth seem to occur over most of the U.S. I know of a number of examples from Kentucky, several from Michigan and a few from Ohio. By far the majority of the teeth I have been exposed to have come from Florida and are found mainly in the rivers.



The "black water" diving required to bring them to the surface of these rivers makes them worth every cent that they sell for. A tree shrouded river, with water the color of strong coffee due to a high concentration of tannic acid, sinkholes in the river bed, and an occasional alligator will make most anyone think twice before diving in.

As I mentioned earlier, it looks like frauds of even these are showing up. A friend who has studied these teeth extensively reports having seen what appeared to be an outstanding mastodon tooth at a recent show. Something "didn't look right" and further examination revealed bubbles in the enamel portion of the tooth. Bubble holes in the enamel of teeth just doesn't happen. The conclusion he finally came to was that this tooth was a well made cast of an actual tooth.

Not only are the fakers now reproducing the paleo points of the Indians that hunted these animals, they're making the animals teeth too.

FIG: 20
Extremely fine example of prehistoric art. Carved and excised from a portion of the outer shell of the giant Whelk from the Coastal Regions of Florida, this fenestrated and engraved gorget features the mythical "long nose God". Unique to this artifact is the headress plume.
Collection of Arthur R. Cushman, M.D., Madison, Tennessee

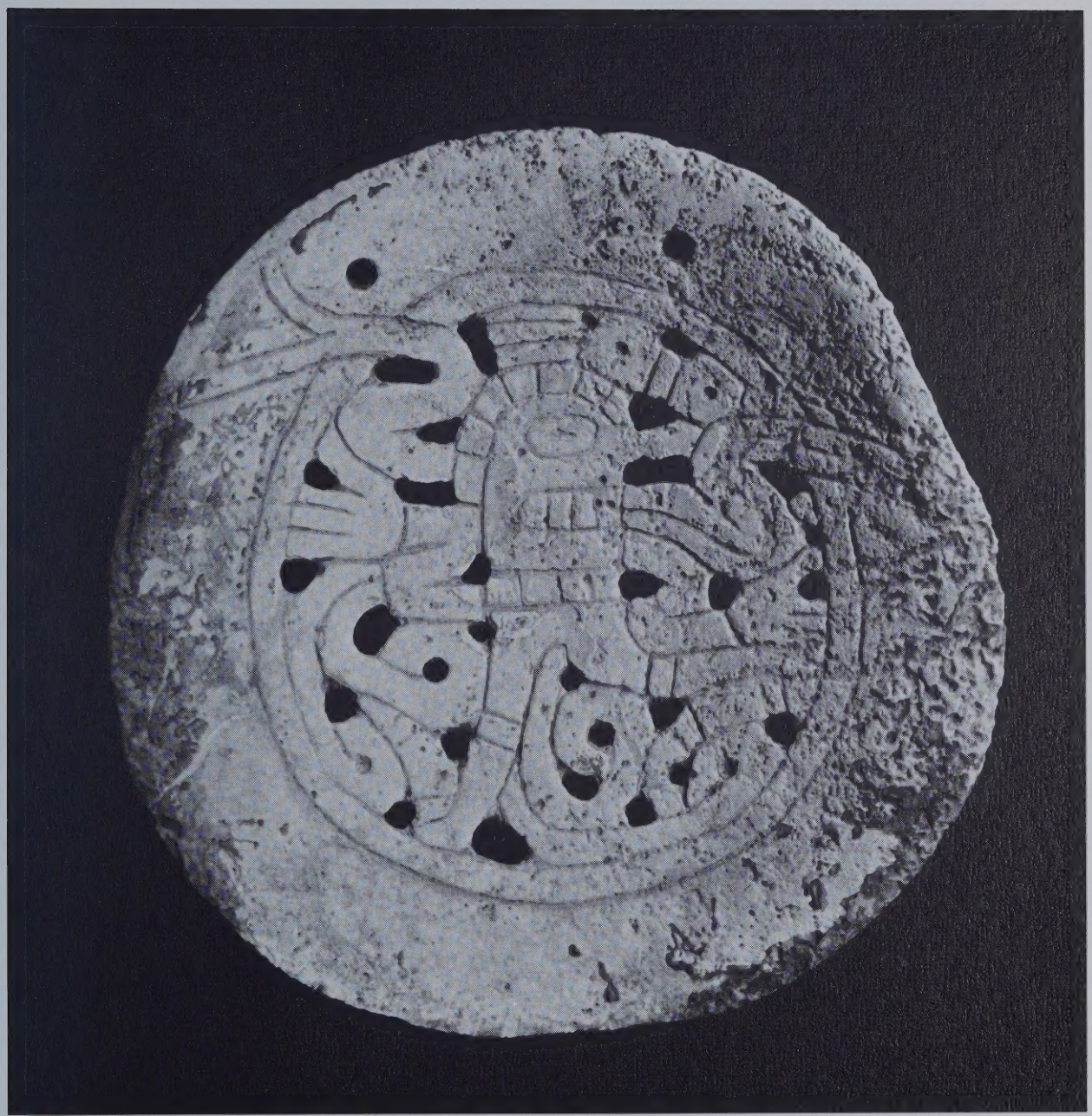


FIG: 21
This splendid engraved and fenestrated shell gorget is a recent discovery by David Logan in North Georgia in February 1987. Measuring 5" in diameter, the similarity of the "Long Nose God" figure is highly interesting as compared with the theme of the gorget in the collection of Dr. Cushman (page 22). "Prehistoric Artifacts" is pleased to provide this comparitive showing to our members.
Collection of Ron Knight, Chattanooga, Tennessee

FIG: 22
This fine example of a McFate pottery vessel. Recovered from a pit on a late Woodland Village site in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania in 1982 by Harry Matlack. The McFate culture has been identified with northwest Pennsylvania, northeast Ohio and possibly south New York. Usually shell tempered, sides and bottom cordmarked, incised with diagonal and horizontal lines.
Elmo Fink, Curwensville, Pennsylvania

"Facts about Fakes"
by John F. Berner

You know it must give Fake manufacturers a great deal of pride to visit artifact shows and observe examples of their handiwork reverently displayed among the collections of serious hobbyists. I have noticed over the past several years some of these infamous scoundrels with a look of amusement at just how many of their deceptions were available for sale or carefully displayed as proud acquistions in the cases of serious collectors. In one instance I overheard a couple of these good old boys commenting on how so and so didn't know the difference between good and bad. Then they publicly laughed about the owner's misfortune. Of course some of the makers tour the shows for other reasons. It gives them opportunity to see other makers works and determine the popularity of some of the potential new Fake styles. I find it hard to understand why any half-way honest collector would even give the time of day to the likes of these people. But invariably they do, probably hoping that the crooks might give them a chance to buy something good now and then!

Pride is very expensive. Often times it is the main reason why collectors refuse to prosecute dishonest dealers and fake makers. It's one thing to accuse a person of selling fakes, but it's another to admit you were taken in by the sting. Few collectors like to admit to another collector they have paid out good money for a fake. The shame of it all is that in the past year, I personally know of a half dozen stings where the unfortuate buyer got stuck for a fake that cost in excess of $10,000 a piece. Up until about two years ago, the scams involved flint; now big fake pipes, idols, discoidals and engraved shell are the hot items.

What can we do about all of this? Let me share a thought with you. I'm not a very aggressive collector at this time, but about 10 years ago, it was almost a full time job being in pursuit of relics. And it seems that all the fine people I associated with at that time were just as aggressive as myself. I guess in looking back in comparison with today, the big difference was that collectively we all tried to help one another. Let me explain. Never did a week go by that I didn't acquire at least one pretty decent artifact from someone; whether it be a sale, auction, show or private transaction. And most of my acquaintances did the same. With such vigorous acquistions and trading, it was virtually impossible not to make a mistake occasionally. And I did. And so did they. But here's what happened.

Whenever we would visit the other person's collection, the first thing we did was to examine the new additions. And should anything look a little strange, we said so! Now, nobody got too bent out of shape on the situation, because we all helped one another. Nobody wanted to be caught dead with a Fake on display, and if one was found; it departed immediately never to be seen again in my friends display. In fact, I always opened the visit with "If you see anything that doesn't look good, let me know; because I want to build a clean collection!"

Now let me tell you, a lot of my collector friends were pretty bold about it. Some didn't wait for the request. After a minute or two of observation they'd simply say: "Where did that piece of junk come from, surely you don't think that's good, do you?" If you don't think that will get your attention, think again! I'll have to admit, more than one time I had to do some serious rearranging in the relic case after some social visits from fellow collectors. But it was worth it! I guess what I am driving at is that I want my friends to tell me when I've done good, and when I've made a mistake. That's what friends are for.

Archaeological and Artifact Reference Books
Part V: The Collector Books
by Bill Koup

Ahh---the collector books! The near and dear old volumes on our shelves with the worn covers and well-thumbed pages. The books we are continually taking from our shelves to make a quick reference or just to browse through the photographs of outstanding artifacts. Yes, these are the familiar "old friends" that most veteran collectors recognize and often refer. These are the books that many of us have learned so much from by studying the photographs. Unfortunately a few of the titles are becoming difficult to obtain. This is a bad situation because the valuable information and knowledge in them is being lost to many of the collectors who need it most---the novice.

All too often the beginning collector uses all expendable dollars on the purchase of artifacts without ever considering the purchase of a reference book. Looking at the situation from the beginner's viewpoint this is certainly understandable. Why buy an old book when a nice artifact can be purchased for the same amount of money? However, as most of us know, the beginner often gets burned on a fake artifact and sometimes makes the unfortunate decision to leave the hobby permanently. This is certainly not to imply that this scenario would not occur if, the novice would purchase and study a couple of reference books, but it would help.

The collector books are fun! They have been published to display collectors and their collections. There is very little text in any of them. But, what you will find are hundreds of photographs of thousands of artifacts, so there won't be too much to say about them except sit back, relax and enjoy looking.

A. PHOTOGRAPHS OF INTERESTING AND OUTSTANDING SPECIMENS OF INDIAN RELICS FROM THE EDWARD W. PAYNE STONE AGE COLLECTION, The First National Bank of Springfield, 1937

Eight boxcar loads of artifacts! Can you imagine that? How about a million artifacts? Most people would have no conception for the bulk and quantity of eight boxcars or a million artifacts. But one collector, Edward W. Payne, is said to have collected that amount of prehistoric Indian artifacts. Difficult to imagine isn't it?

Edward W. Payne was a successful Springfield, Illinois banker/businessman who collected prehistoric artifacts passionately and intensely over a period spanning most of his 74 years of life. He also collected with indiscrimination, as he often employed agents to seek out and purchase artifact collections from all over the country. It has been said that Mr. Payne never viewed portions of his immense collection as much of it

was never unpacked after shipment. Large vaults were constructed under his offices to store the bulk of his collection. Only a very small quantity of artifacts were ever on display at any one time during his lifetime.

The Great Depression was in full swing when Payne died in 1932. At that time, there were no individuals, institutions or governments interested in maintaining the Payne collection intact. Beginning in 1935 the collection began to be liquidated to the public. It was first offered at auction. Then the remainder was removed to a large building at the Dixon Mounds where it was displayed and offered for sale to the public.

"The Payne Book" was probably published by the First National Bank of Springfield in 1937 as a means of promoting the sale of the remainder of the Payne collection in order to settle the estate. The first few pages briefly detail the life of Mr. Payne and the events surrounding the liquidation of the artifact collection. The rest of the book consists of 146 pages of photographs showing all manner of prehistoric artifacts. All of the photographs are shown 7 x 9 inches and are of high quality and resolution. There are several plates that show relatively common artifacts; however, there are numerous plates illustrating many superb and often famous artifacts.

Indeed this is a rare book. The quantity published must have been very low as this book is seldom seen for sale. A photo-copy reprint of this book has been made, but the quality of the photographs is not high.

B. INDIAN RELICS AND THEIR VALUES, Allen Brown, 1942

This interesting little book was probably the first to attempt to affix dollar values to artifacts. Artifacts are always unique even within a specific type or form and this is not to mention differences in condition. Therefore, to state that a particular type of artifact is worth a set value is risky at best. However, this problem is what makes this and other old value guides so interesting. While looking through this book, it is difficult not to dream of the fun it would be to travel back to 1942 and purchase artifacts with 1987 dollars.

The very finest bannerstones and birdstones were valued from $50.00 to $250.00. Fine gorgets and pendants ranged from $2.00 to $15.00. Fluted paleo points were priced from $2.50 to $10.00. How would you like to purchase a fabulous Hopewell effigy pipe for $250.00?

Even though the value of the dollar has changed dramatically and the original purpose of this book as a value guide has long been lost, it still has a great deal of value as a reference book. All manner of fine artifacts are shown in clean, quality photographs. Many of the artifacts shown in this book have since become very well known or even famous. In addition to the prehistoric artifacts, **Indian Relics and Their Values** contains a section on historic Indian artifacts.

This book is a great deal of fun, and it isn't too hard to obtain. However, there is one caution. It will cause daydreams!

C. PREHISTORIC ART, The Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society, 1953

Prehistoric Art is a picture book entirely devoted to collectors and significant artifacts from their collections. This format had been used before but always in conjunction with a text. **Prehistoric Art** contains only photographs with brief captions. This format has been used several times since 1953, most notably in the famous "Who's Who" series initiated by H.C. Wachtel in 1960.

Prehistoric Art was published by The Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society, one of the three state archaeological societies to later found the Central States Archaeological Societies, Inc. Many prominent collectors of the mid-century era are shown with portions of their collections. Most of the collectors were from the Illinois and Missouri area along with a sprinkling of Indiana and Ohio collectors. Some of the collections represented in this volume are: Foersterling, Smail, Townsend, La Dassor, Buehl, Waters, T.H. Young, Meuser and Stephens. Of course many of the collectors are now deceased with their collections dispersed which makes **Prehistoric Art** a highly valuable documentation reference.

The photographs are mostly 6 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches, and all are of exceptional quality showing great detail. This is what sets **Prehistoric Art** apart from most of the other collector books. The artifacts in **Prehistoric Art** were photographed in small groupings rather than the typical full display case photos that are often seen in the "Who's Who" series. Many of the artifacts are shown in **Prehistoric Art** as actual size or larger. If you enjoy looking at high quality photographs of high quality artifacts, you will certainly enjoy this book.

Prehistoric Art is paper bound with a printed

message from the president of The Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society on the inside front cover. At that time the president was Gray La Dassor who personally signed my copy. I would assume that most of the other copies are similarly signed.

D. WHO'S WHO IN INDIAN RELICS, Volume I, 1960 and Volume II, 1968, H.C. Wachtel

What would we do without our "Who's Who" books? Those mahogany colored books with the gold lettering are so familiar on the shelves of collectors that it is difficult to imagine collecting without them. Think of the countless hours that have been spent by thousands of collectors studying the artifacts and collections from all over the country that are illustrated in the seven volumes of **Who's Who in Indian Relics**. H.C. Wachtel is certainly responsible in large part for making the hobby of artifact collecting more fraternal and continental in scope.

Who's Who in Indian Relics, Volume I and II are veritible treasure troves of collecting history. When Wachtel published Volume I in 1960 many of the collectors included were already deceased. Much credit must be given to Wachtel for including them in his book for the benefit of future generations of collectors. Where else are we to find evidence of the important collections of Dr. Rollin Bunch, Frank Burdett, Leon Kramer, Walter Nelson, Jacob Royer and others? Yes, this is an important history book for artifact collecting. As time passes Volume II and the subsequent "Who's Who" will also become ever more important to our collecting history.

An important part of both Volume I and Volume II is the documentation of the Wachtel collection. Nearly half of Volume I and numerous pages of Volume II are devoted to photographs and captions of the fabulous Wachtel collection.

Both Volume I and II have long been unavailable in their original form. However, they have both been reprinted, but these too are becoming scarce. Unfortunately the reprints do not compare favorably to the originals. The contrast is very high which makes the identification of a single artifact from a large group a very difficult task.

Let's hope there will always be some capable individuals willing to carry on the tradition initiated by H.C. Wachtel and continued by Cameron Parks and Ben Thompson to help us document our collecting efforts for future generations.

E.THE MEUSER COLLECTION, Robert N. Converse, 1977

Even though **The Meuser Collection** is barely ten years old and is still easily obtainable, I feel that it is a must for inclusion in a review of collector books. The Dr. Gordon F. Meuser collection of artifacts stands as a monument to collecting. Few collectors before or since Meuser have been able to amass such a superb and huge artifact collection. **The Meuser Collection** is a testiment to that accomplishment.

Robert Converse has compiled hundreds of quality photographs that document most of Dr. Meuser's more significant artifacts. Dr. Meuser's interests were in slate, pipes, discoidals, lizard effigies and axes. The flint artifacts that he acquired were quickly traded for artifacts in his areas of interest.

Dr. Meuser died in 1971. When his collection was dispersed in the mid 1970's it took seven auction sessions to dispose of it. Included in **The Meuser Collection** is the photographic catalog of all the Meuser artifacts that were auctioned. **The Meuser Collection** is an excellent reference book for all forms of slate, pipes and other artifact forms.

I hope this series of articles has helped readers of "Prehistoric Artifacts" to be aware, better understand and better appreciate some of the fine archaeological publications that are available for study. If this has happened then I am gratified. Writing these articles has forced me to read and think carefully about all reviewed publications. In so doing, I have gained a great deal of knowledge I would not otherwise have. For this I am grateful. I am also grateful for the many positive comments I have received on these articles. Thank you very much. Keep reading.

FIG: 23

Top, left to right: Keyhole pendant, Hardin County, Ohio (Meuser), Adena Quadraconcave gorget, Rush Co., Indiana, found 5/15/81 by Dave McKintosh; Glacial Kame gorget, Hancock County, Indiana, found 1980 near Willow Branch; Adena Quadraconcave, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, ex. Johnson, Vietzen, Dickey; Keyhole pendant, Scioto County, Ohio, ex. Dr. Hawes.

Bottom, left to right: Keyhole pendant, Vigo County, Indiana, ex. B.W.Stephens, Cameron Parks, Pendant, Ross County, Ohio, John Parker, Adena gorget, Allen County, Indiana, ex. Cameron Parks; Pendant, Boone County, Indiana, ex. Stephens, Hawes. Keyhole Pendant, Hardin County, Ohio, ex. Parks, Who's Who III.

Collection of Bill Cain, Wilinson, Indiana

FIG: 24
A collection of "Thebes" type projectiles, mostly from the State of Illinois. The longest point measures 5 1/4".
Collection of Bill Cain, Wilinson, Indiana

Videos Provide Education and Documentation

by C.S. Wagers

Given the popularity of the VCR in today's home, the idea of making videos of relic collections, digs, shows, etc. is a natural outgrowth. In the last year I have seen home videos of several relic shows, an axe being dug in a shell mound, and even a headpot being dug on a Mississippean site! How many folks have actually seen a headpot come out of the ground? I have thoroughly enjoyed each video.

David Bintliff of North Little Rock, Arkansas has built on this idea and this writer has been impressed. David has begun offering for sale videos of some of the outstanding relic collections around the country. By doing this, collectors all over the country have the opportunity to see fantastic collections they would never have had the chance to visit and "meet" collectors they would never have the opportunity to know.

David is presently distributing videos of the Kent Westbrook collection and the Sam Johnson collection. Both are well done. David's plans tell me that future videos are coming and will only get better. The two videos available were my Father's Day present.

David is a collector himself and has dug a lot of holes in building his collection. His specialty is Caddo.

Anyone who has visited with me or talked with me at any length on the subject of artifacts knows how strongly I support documentation of relics. It seems that with each generation, the knowledge base of relics decreases by half.

Think what it would be like to have a video of people like Moorehead, Payne, Young and so many others giving the history of their relic collections. The documentation of these relics would be priceless, not to mention the perspective of who these great men were and what they were all about. What we are talking about is the history of the relic as well as the history of the avocation. Our actions of today are tomorrow's history.

I can certainly understand the squeamish feeling that some of our prominent collectors have with regards to permitting a video of this sort to be made of their relics. Security is a vital issue with all of us. If my collection were of a quality that would make it a candidate for a Bintliff video, I would have mixed emotions. The question for me is part of, "What do I want to leave behind for future generations?"

At any rate, there is an organization providing a neat product, at a very reasonable price for anyone interested. To find out more, you can write American Relics, 1200 James Road, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

G.I.R.S. "Authenticity Program" Participation

The next opportunity for members to participate in submitting artifacts to be examined by the F.A.C.T. ™ (Fraudulent Artifact Committee Taskforce) will be at our 2nd Annual Cincinnati, Ohio Artifact show which will be held the first weekend in April 1988 at the Marriott Hotel, Chester Road, North Cincinnati, Ohio. This two day event will be formally announced in the 1st issue of "Prehistoric Artifacts" for 1988. Watch for details!

The "Authenticity Program" and how you can participate!

The new "Authenticity Program" is available to Members of the G.I.R.S., Non-Members and Institutions. There is no limit on the number of items which you may submit for examination. Here's how it works:

1. Applications are available through the G.I.R.S. (Free of charge.)
2. The application must be completed by the person submitting the item, along with a 3"x5" Black & White or Color Photo, and the appropriate Fee.
3. Upon receipt of application, photo and Fee;the owner will be advised where and when to bring the artifact/item for examination.
4. At the appointed Place and Time, the artifact/item will be examined by F.A.C.T.™ (Fraudulent Artifact Committee Taskforce, an official organization of The Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc., Founded 1964)
5. F.A.C.T.™ will render an opinion on the artifact/item submitted.

   Artifacts judged "Authentic without Question" will receive a Certificate of Authenticity. Questionable items will be rejected.

FEE: $10 per item/ G.I.R.S. Members
$15 per item/ Non-Members
$20 per item/ Institutions

Send your request for applications to:
Mr. C.S. Wagers
c/o G.I.R.S. "Authenticity Program"
2162 Resor Road, Fairfield, OH 45014

1988 G.I.R.S. MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please be advised that the address for sending your 1988 MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION DUES is as follows:

Make check or Money Order payable in the amount of $12.00 to The Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc., 1602 Main Street, Rochester, Indiana 46975.

Dues begin with Calendar year. Thank You.

Notice to Editorial Contributors

Please forward all materials (articles, photographs, etc.) to your nearest Regional Editor (names and addresses listed in the front of this journal). If this is not possible, please forward information to the Editor-in-Chief.

1. Articles are preferred typewritten and double spaced on standard 8-1/2" x 11" paper. The author's name and address should appear below the title.

2. Photographs must be glossy black & white: 8 x 10's preferred, 5x7, 4x5's acceptable. NO POLAROIDS!

3. When submitting photographs, please include the following: Size, color of artifact, description of type of material, location of find (when known) such as County, state, name of finder, etc.

4. If quoting another article of publication, please credit the source with a footnote and biographical entry.

5. All photographs, articles, materials submitted cannot be returned after publication as such items are retained in the permanent files of the G.I.R.S.

6. Recently published material may be rejected unless specific reasons are given for doing so. If you have submitted the same information to another publication, please notify us when submitting.

Back Issues of Journals

This society is now in the 20th year of publication. Supplies of some Back Issues are extremely limited. We urge you to order copies of issues desired without delay:

Regular issues:	1966 through 1969	$5.50 each
	1970 through 1983	$5.00 each
	1985	$4.00 each
Special issues:	"Copper" 1978	$10.00 each
	"Pottery" 1979	$20.00 each
	"Dovetails" 1980	$20.00 each
	"Birdstones" 1982	$20.00 each

1988 Membership & Subscription Dues

The Board of Directors of the Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc. (a non-profit organization) have determined that the 1988 Dues will be set at Twelve ($12.00) dollars. This entitles each member to receive Four (4) quarterly journals. Membership & Subscription dues begin with the Calendar year.

Address all correspondence to:

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2602 Main Street, Rochester, Indiana 46975

Statement of Purpose

The specific purpose of this non-profit National Society is to promote friendship and trust among persons interested in the preservation of authentic prehistoric North American artifacts by:

1. *Providing a medium of informational and educational exchange through the regular publication of journals.*
2. *Offering the opportunity for documentation and authentication of artifacts by the society's committee of specialists.*
3. *Taking a positive stand in opposing the display, exchange or distribution of questionable and fraudulent artifacts at society meetings.*

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